

Wendy Cook, Early Childhood Programs Support Manager
Forest Lake Area Schools
Education Center
943 9th Ave SW
Forest Lake, MN 55025

RECEIVED

Hon. Michael Kubayanda
Chairman
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001
Re: Docket number: MC2021-78

2021 JUN -8 P 3: 53

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION

April 28, 2021

Dear Chairman Kubayanda,

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the impact of moving bound printed matter parcels from the Market Dominant to the Competitive Product category. I know this will dramatically increase the rates for flyers and books that are mailed to schools.

I work with Forest Lake Early Childhood Programs in Forest Lake, MN, and there is no doubt that the additional costs will ultimately be passed on to those purchasing books—students and their families. There are already too many barriers to reading for most families I work with. I depend on access to affordable books, which the bound printed matter rates provide, to help me close the gap for my lower-income students who normally could not afford higher-priced books.

Typically, more than 37% of my students come from families that don't have the means to create home libraries for their children. As a Scholastic Book Clubs partner, I am able to earn and use Bonus Points to build a classroom library of books for my students. I also use low-cost but high-quality books as rewards in my class for children who would otherwise never have a new book of their own. These books, both in the classroom and at home, continue to inspire a love of reading in my students, which has a positive impact on their success in all areas of life.

The pandemic has already had a tremendously negative consequence on my students' learning experience and literacy rates in the United States. The increase in mailing costs of educational materials will make access to children's literature even more difficult. I urge you to deny this transfer, or to exempt educational materials, so that I can continue to provide access to affordable, quality books for my students and families. The impact of this change for our school children would be too high a cost to bear.

Sincerely,



CC: Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney
Hon. Gary C. Peters
Hon. Ron A. Bloom

COOK
943 9th Ave SW
F.L., MN
55025

SAINT PAUL MN 550

NEOPOST

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

3 MAY 2021 PM 3 L

05/03/2021

US POSTAGE

\$000.51⁰



ZIP 55025
041M11295804

HON. MICHAEL KUBAYANDA
CHAIRMAN
POSTAL REGULATION COMMISSION
901 NEW YORK AVE NW, Ste 200
WASHINGTON DC 20268-0001

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